



CIC BULLETIN

NEWS FROM DC CORRECTIONS INFORMATION COUNCIL

Message from the Executive Director



In the last month, the CIC has continued to find ways to represent and communicate with DC residents in custody. In June, we sent a Covid-19 focused survey to random DC residents within the BOP, and since then we have received a great volume of responses via mail. The Covid-19 survey consisted of questions in two main areas: healthcare and institutional cleaning, and communication and movement. We are currently producing two reports based on data received from the survey. The first is a quantitative report, which will present aggregated response numbers. The second is a qualitative report, which will present more detailed findings. In addition to the Covid-19 survey reports, we are currently working on a thematic report focused on compassionate release and its effect on DC residents in the custody of the BOP.

The CIC will also produce two DC Department of Corrections (DOC) reports this year: an annual report for fiscal year 2020, and a supplemental report from fiscal year 2019. Lastly, we are producing a thematic report that addresses major issues communicated to us by incarcerated individuals, and an inspection report from USP Hazelton.

In an effort to maintain our relationships with community constituents and groups, the CIC was invited to participate in a discussion with the ReThink Justice Committee at their August 2020 meeting. The discussion focused on the impact of the pandemic on the CIC, our relationship with the BOP, and future inspections of the DOC. As we approach the fall season, we will also begin production for our annual holiday postcard project. Please contact communications specialist, Nailah Seabron at nailah.seabron@dc.gov for more information about how to get involved.

-Donald Isaac, Sr.



Update on implementation of DC Code 24-403.04 Motions for Compassionate Release

On April 7, 2020, the DC Council passed emergency legislation which expanded the eligibility of DC Code Offenders to apply to the Superior Court for compassionate release. Soon after the passage of the legislation, the Washington Lawyers' Committee, the Public Defender Service of DC, the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, and several organizations came together to provide information about the new legislation and create the DC Compassionate Release Clearinghouse to assign volunteer attorneys to persons deemed eligible to apply for compassionate release. The DC Corrections Information Council mailed copies of the informational materials to every DC Code Offender detained by the Federal Bureau of Prisons. Subsequently, approximately 600 prisoners have contacted the DC Compassionate Release Clearinghouse seeking legal assistance. On August 18, 2020, the DC Corrections Information Council received an update on the progress of the process of the compassionate release applications. As of August 18, 2020, two hundred and forty-eight (248) cases have been filed in Superior Court. Of those, one hundred and four (104) cases have been decided. Of those, twenty-nine persons have been granted compassionate release as a result of the new legislation.

If you have additional questions about Compassionate Release, please contact the DC Compassionate Release Clearinghouse at: compassionaterleasedc@washlaw.org, or 202-319-1074.

If you or a family member have been granted compassionate release, please contact patricia.Marks@dc.gov so we can learn more about you and your success.

Community Events

- **Virtual Public Meeting Series: Responding to COVID-19 and the Call for Racial Justice.**

CJCC will hold 4 virtual meetings in lieu of agency public meetings. There are two major issues facing our country:

- 1) The spread of COVID-19, a particularly contagious and deadly virus, that has disproportionately affected minority communities
- 2) The persistent call for racial justice following the murders of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor and George Floyd at the hands of former or current law enforcement officers

The meetings are a 4-part series to provide an opportunity for the public to hear the perspectives of the District's Corrections, Juvenile Justice, Courts and Prosecution, and Community Supervision agency leaders on these issues. [CLICK HERE](#) to register for the event!

- **The DOC Case Management and Program** divisions will be hosting several town-halls in regards to programming and services within DOC. . If you have any questions please contact LaTonia Battle-White, Special Assistant for Programs and Case Management at latonia.battlewhite@dc.gov or 202-790-6590.

Let's continue to serve.

The Programs and Case Management division aims to resume programming and services to residents during these critical times. Join us for teleconferences to discuss our reopening plans and ways that we can work together to continue our mission. We look forward to hearing from you.

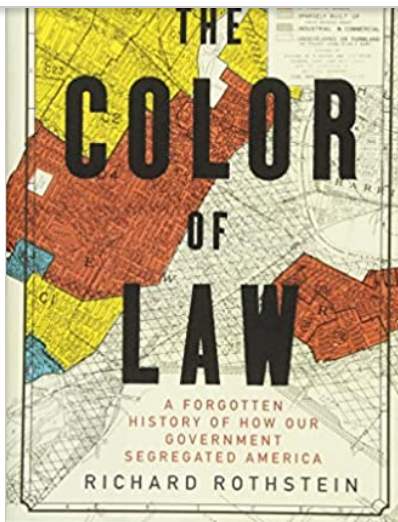
Religious Services	August 18, 2020 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (720) 740-9645 Access Code: 8252191
Men and Women's Transitional Programs and Services	August 26, 2020 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (720) 740-9645 Access Code: 8252191



What We're Reading: Gentrification

The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America

by: Richard Rothstein

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In this history of the modern American metropolis, Richard Rothstein, a leading authority on housing policy, explores the myth that America's cities came to be racially divided through *de facto* segregation—that is, through individual prejudices, income differences, or the actions of private institutions like banks and real estate agencies. Rather, *The Color of Law* incontrovertibly makes clear that it was *de jure* segregation—the laws and policy decisions passed by local, state, and federal governments—that actually promoted the discriminatory patterns that continue to this day.



The CIC is on Instagram!

Follow us @dc_cic for updates, useful information, and events!



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